

MEETING OF THE ONEIDA COUNTY HIGHWAY SAFETY COMMISSION

HELD ON 05/26/16 AT 12:30 P.M. AT THE RHINELANDER, WI, HIGHWAY SHOP

MEMBERS PRESENT: KIRBY/CHAIRMAN, PANOSH/DOT BOTS PROGRAM MGR, BENNETT/COORDINATOR, COOPER/SECRETARY, KEIFFER/WISDOT, GAUTHIER/O.C. SHERIFF'S DEPT, McELDOWNEY/LEGAL, INTREPIDI/PUBLIC, STEFONEK/O.C. HWY, MOUNTJOY/MEDIA

The following matters were taken up to wit:

1. Kirby called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m. It was noted the meeting was properly posted and the media notified.
2. **Motion:** McEldowney/Gauthier to approve the agenda. All ayes.
3. **Motion:** Gauthier/Keiffer to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. All ayes.
4. **Motion:** Bennett/Cooper to nominate Keiffer for Vice-Chairman. Bennett/McEldowney to close nominations. Unanimous ballots cast for Keiffer as Vice-Chairman. All ayes.
5. Discussed speed limit reduction of County Highway 'P' from 55 MPH to 45 MPH as directed by the Oneida County Public Works Committee and approved by County Board in the form of a Resolution. Bennett explained that he has only received favorable comments about the reduction. The speed limit signs are flagged on each end to alert motorist. Seasonal weight limits will not be put on this road.
6. Discussed speed limit reduction in construction zones. Bennett explained that the County Board approved a resolution giving the Highway Commissioner, or his designee, the authority to lower the speed limit in an active construction zone to whatever speed limit he feels necessary to keep the worker safe.
7. Discussed a request for a speed limit reduction on County Highway 'L'. Bennett explained that the matter still must go through the town of jurisdiction. The Public Works Committee is discussing the matter, but may decline the request if Lincoln County does not lower their end of County Highway 'L'.
8. 2016 budgetary items discussed. **Motion:** McEldowney/Keiffer to purchase reflective slap bracelets and walking vests. All ayes. Committee discussed locations to distribute items to the public.
9. Highway Safety Reports:
 - 2016 Wisconsin fatalities to date are 196 versus 184 this same time last year. 2014 at this time there were only 139 but that was a record year. 166 is the 5-year average. Traffic fatalities in Wisconsin, consistently 1/3 are alcohol related. Gas prices are down so more people are traveling. 2 fatalities so far in Oneida County.
 - Click It or Ticket is going on now. Ads with Donald Driver all over TV. Wisconsin has an 86% seatbelt usage rate, below the national average. Lowest usage has been found in rural areas; and pick up truck drivers.
 - ACT 308 will be in effect on October 1st, 2016. This will ban cell phone use by drivers in construction zones.
10. Keiffer explained a new interactive website that the Department of Transportation has put out allowing the public to access all construction areas throughout the state. It provides details, including project managers on each site, construction details, and integrated maps. The site is updated every Friday so information is current. Keiffer explained that it would be much easier for him to show the interactive website information and the many uses of the site if WIFI was available here at the Highway Department. Cooper said the department is trying to get a smart TV put in the conference room for meeting such as these but progress is slow moving. Hopefully it will be up and running by next meeting.

11. No Other Public comments
12. Future meetings scheduled for: August 16th, 2016, and November 15th, 2016. All meetings are at 12:30 p.m. at the Rhinelander Highway Shop.
13. **Motion:** Keiffer/Intrepidi to adjourn at 1:20 p.m. All ayes.

Committee Chairperson

Committee Vice-Chairperson